

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 20 has been amended to define patentable subject matter.

The applicants elect the subject matter of the Examiner's Group III, with traverse. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are requested as, at a minimum, examination of all of the claimed subject matter is not believed to present an undue burden for the Examiner. Moreover, the applicants believe that the Examiner has not established a lack of unity of invention under the PCT Rules, such as by citation of a reference which demonstrates that the claims as a whole do not contain a special technical feature. Withdrawal of the restriction requirement is requested. At a minimum, consideration of the subject matter of the Examiner's Groups III, VII, VIII and IX in this single application is requested. Alternatively, rejoinder and allowance of the methods of the Examiner's Groups VII, VIII and IX are requested allowable claims to the products used and/or made in the claimed methods are found allowable.

The applicants further elect, with traverse, as a single sequence, SEQ ID NO: 28 which codes for peptide of sequence SEQ ID NO:13. The election of a single specific sequence should not be required as the Examiner has not demonstrated the lack of unity between the sequences, as required by the PCT Rules.

Withdrawal of the restriction and species election requirements are requested along with an early and favorable Action on the merits of all of the claims.

ESCAICH, Sonai
Appl. No. 10/520,820
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Respectfully submitted,

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